Does Lu.22,17 apply to the Jewish passover,or to the Lord's supper-the communion?

Some who are trying to defend the use of individual cups in serving the Communion,contend that it belongs to the Jewish Passover because the command which Christ gave "Divide this among yourselves" and is undeniable proof that the contents of the cup was in one container,and the disciples were to do the dividing-He did not divide it for them into seperate containers,they divided it among themselves by drinking of it as is recorded in Mk.14,23 "Drink ye all of it" And they all drank of it.

Examining Ex.12th chapter,where directions were given for preparing and keeping the passover,we find no intimation thay there was a drink element mentioned,Nor do we find a drink element mentioned any where in the old testament in connection with keeping the passover.Nor do we find blessing pronounced at the beginning or during the meal.

Butwe do find three verses each of which mentions the fruit of the as the drink element (called the cup)in the oeder Christ gave in keeping His death in remembrance-The cup taken,thanks given,command given drink ye all of it-all of you drink of it,as Luke reads Divide this among yourselves,which they did by all drinking of it.--And when Cherist commanded them to divide it among themselves,is all the proof that anyone needs that the disciples were to do the dividing.Mt.26,verses26,27-28--Mk.14,23,24,25.Lu.22-17,18,20 three verses of each which mention Christ as saying" I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine until I drink new in my Fathers kingdom.Also that Lu.22,17 undoubetedly belongs to the communionservice--the Lord's supper.

Dare we set aside the command of Christ and divide the cup into individual cups before passing to the disciples?And the disciples not be able to divide among themselves as Christ commanded?Divide this among yourselves". Substitute man's way for God's way.Make the command of Christ of none effect.Would not this be a presumptious sin?If not,what is a presumptious sin? We are commanded to neither add to or diminish from God's word,also pervert His word-make the truth of God of none effect. Paul advises us,If any consent not to wholesome words even the words of the Lord Jesus,he is proud knowing nothing--Pride is one thing God God hates--We are told that it is not in man that walketh to direct his own steps,but a good mans steps are ordered of the Lord.

In 1 Cor.10,16 We have the container and contents both mentioned Cup of blessing,Cup (container)singular-one,The cup of blessing which we bless is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? I have one t translation which reads"The cup of blessing which we bless,is it not the Joint participation of the blood of Christ-when we all drink from one cup it really is a joint participation,but when it is divided into individual cups we have individual participation,this also changes the truth of God ,adds to,changes.if not why not?If aperson individually builds a house,he is the individual builder.But if others partake in this building would not this be Joint participation in this building? Some translators use the word fellowship,and when we drink from the one container,obeying the commahd "Divide this among yourselves"we show a fellowship with all who partake.If not why not?

Some claim that Mt.26,26-29--Mk.14,22-25--Lu.22,17-20 apply to the feast of the Passove--But We read 1Cor.5,7For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us,letus therefore keep the feast,Not with the leaven of malice and wickedness,but with the unleavened bread of ~~sincerity~~ sincer-ity and truth,Christ said "Do this in remembrance of me"-Paul in 1Cor. 11,23-29 For as oft as ye eat of this bread and drink of this cup,ye do shew the Lord's death till He comd.--We also read of the first converts Ac.2,42 Continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine,in the breaking of bread and in prayers .Then in Ac 20.7 The disciples came together to break bread on the first day of the week,and Paul preached to them. We also have in Heb.10-25,29 the exhortation not to forsake the assemblin of yourselves together as the manner of some is-and the sins we commit when we forsake the assembly.Keeping the Lord's death in remembrance is the memorial mentioned to be kept in the new testament.

We have the argument improperly used in 1Cor.14,40 by our individual cuppers,Let all things be done decently and and in order,as though it is indecent to drink with others from the same container,are they intimating that Christ ordained a practice that is indecent? When it is undeniable that Christ used only one container,and Commandad them to divide it among themselves-(the Contents),by drinking of it. Such reasoning!Why pervert God's word in order to be like the nations around us as the Israelites when they demanded a king to rule over them.Or for the sake of prestige as some claim.In other words to have the approval of men,Paul asks, do I seek to pleasr men,or to please God?For if I seek to please men,I am not the servant of Christ."--And if any consent not to the words of the Lord Jesus,and the doctrine that is according to Godliness,he is proud knowing nothing,but doting about questions and strife of words,whereof cometh envy,strife,evil surmisings. The Lord told the disciples to do the dividing,He did not divide it for them.

Turn to page 2.

Some examples of eating and drinking from the same container recorded in the scriptures, Gen.24,15 Abraham's servant asked a drink from the maiden's pitcher. Jn.4,7 Jesus asked a drink of the Samaritan womanwhen He had nothing to draw a drink from the well. Mt.15,1-20 The Pharisees and Scribes criticised christ and His disciples for eating with un washed hands. But Jesus reminded them tha t it is not that which goeth into the mout that defileth the man, but that which cometh out of the mouth, For out of the mouth, out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murder, adultery, fornication, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: these defile the man. Another impressive example Mt, 26, 21While eating the feast of the passover with the disciples, Christ said, "Verily I say unto you that one of you shall betray me And they began every man to say Lord is it I? Verse 23 And He answered and said, "He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me, Jn. 13, 25 John asked "Lord who is it? Jesus answered, "He to whom I shall give a sop when I have dipped it." And when He had dipped the sop He handed it to Judas Iscariot.

Now consider these examples, Abraham'S servant asked a drink from the maidens pitcher, Christ and the Samaritan woman, the disciples dipping and eating from one dish of sop.--QAnd eating with unwashed hands.--Christ commanding them all to divide this among yourselves. Did Christ authorize a practice which was unsanitary or indecent? Surely not. But that is what our individual cuppers accuse us of when we obey the command "Divide this among yourselves". One cuppers are accused of making a law where there is no law. A command is law, and Christ gave that command, Man did not make that command. We also have all the words and pronouns used in Mt., Mk. & Lu. in connection with the memorial of His death, the cup, this cup, that cup, all naming the contents and the container together and in the singular number

Can a person honestly claim to be speaking where the bible speaks, or speaking as the oracles off God when he uses cups, where cup is used? And dividing where the disciples were COMMANDED to do the dividing? Can he claim to believe that "God has given us all things that pertain to life and Godliness, and Kept back nothing profitable to us" when He adds cups to cup? Hasn't He made a law where God has made none? hasnt he changed the truth of God into a lie?--When we have more than is revealed, it is not of faith. And we read "That which is not of faith is sin. That which is revealed is THE FAITH. He has given us all things that pertain to life and Godliness. All things, What more do we need.? Nothing more!!.

EXPEDIENCE is another argument intrying to defend the use of individual cups. That where the command is given to do a thing and no expedient given to carry out that command, we are at liberty to doas we think best. But Christ gave all the expedient nevessary to carry out his command when He took the cup, and gave thanks for it and gave it to the disciples with the commahd 2Divide this among yourselves, which they did by all drinking of it. If the person serving the table divides into individual cups before passing to the disciples, He has usurped authority where the disciples were to do the dividing. Let usnot deceive ourselves when we give thanks for the cup of the Lord when it is in Cups. Or as some do "Give thanks for the cup which is the fruit of the vine" when it is in several cups.

We have the argument offered that the container has nothing to do with the distribution of the fruit of the vine. Is it not an expedient? And Christ gave us that expedient.

Why Climm that we are speaking as the oracles of God, when we add to ? Why claim to speak where the bible speads and are silent where the bible is silent and change God's word to mean something different to what is written?

The introduction of cups into the worship has caused division, strife, and confusion in the church since first introduced about forty five years ago. And we are commanded to mark them that cause division and offenses contrary to the things you have learned and avoid them.

We are warned against sowing discord among brethren, striving about words to no profit, to avoid foolish and unlearned questions, admonished to contend earnestly for thr faith which was once delivered to the saints But these individual cuppers are contending for a practice which cannot be cited by new testament example, inference or command. Therefore it is not of faith. And that which is not of faith is sin. And sin when it is finished bringeth forth death.

If all the literature published, sermons preached, the money and time spent in propagating this heresy had been put in on contending for the things taught in the scriptures, we would have considerably more peace in the body of Christ, considerably less strife, more souls saved anda considerably better fellowship.

Let us honor Christ and His word by contending for the things which have been revealed. Strive for the faithof the gospel, for the unity of the faith.

Yours for the one faith. J.H.LACKEY
Springfield Colo.